Doko Demo Doa
manga scanlations

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V

~ Egao no Tameni ~

By: Takase Yuka

HARUNA.
ONO-KUN.
THAT'S THE END OF TODAY'S PRACTICE.
WHERE'S HARUKA-CHAN?
I THINK SHE'S GONE HOME ALREADY.

JEEZ. I SWEAR I TOLD HER THAT TODAY WE WERE ALL GONNA GO EAT TOGETHER AFTER PRACTICE.
I REMEMBER HER SAYING SOMETHING STRANGE LAST WEEK.
LATELY, SHE'S BEEN RUSH-ING HOME...
AS SOON AS SCHOOL'S FINISHED.
SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS GOING TO ASK TOJO TO JOIN OUR CLUB.
TO...
TOJO?!
FROM THE ATHLETIC CLUB?!
YES.
HARUNA-CHAN. YOU'RE BEING SILLY.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
THAT'S TRUE. AS IF TOJO, THE SCHOOL'S ATHLETICS STAR, WHO'S WON SEVERAL TROPHIES AND MEDALS, WOULD WANT TO JOIN OUR CLUB.

LET ME INTRODUCE A NEW TEAM MEMBER.
HEY, EVERY-ONE.
NI..
NICE TO MEET YOU ALL.
DARN IT!
TOJO WOULD LIKE TO RE-PLACE ME IN THE RIGHT FIELD.

HOW COME TOJO...?
HARUKA-CHAN...
MY SECRET WEAPON THAT ENABLED ME TO DRAG TOJO ALL THE WAY TO OUR CLUB WAS...
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW THE REASON?
THIS!
ACTUALLY...

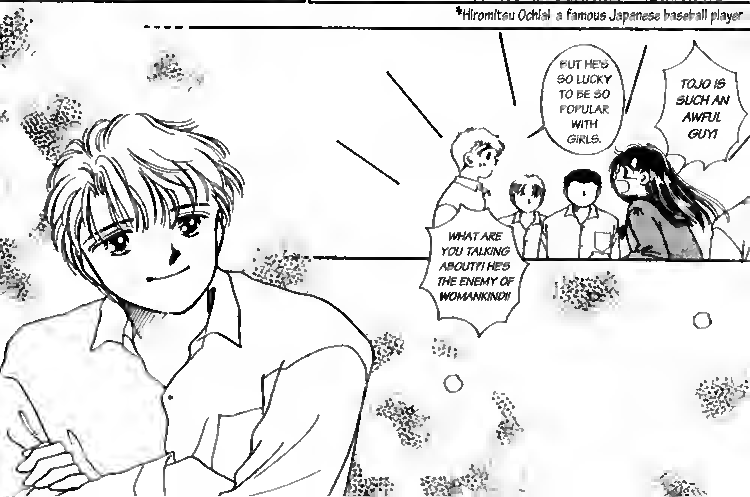
IT'S JUST AS HARUNA SAID. HE'S A PLAY-BOY!
HARUKA-CHAN, DON'T TELL ME...
YOU USED THIS NOTE TO...
EVERYDAY AFTER PRACTICE, I FOLLOWED HIM AND WROTE DOWN WHAT I SAW.
THIS IS A LIST OF GIRLS TOJO'S BEEN DATING THIS WEEK.
WHAT'S THIS?
Monday
Michiyo-chan – 5 p.m.
Tuesday
Keiko-chan & Kaoru-chan – karaoke
Wednesday
Shizuka-chan
Thursday
Miki-chan – 4:30 p.m.
THAT'S RIGHT!
Yumi-chan's birthday, July 3rd.
I'M GLAD YOU NOTICED.
WAIT A SEC.
WHAT'S WITH THIS FLOWER?
I know her too!
Hey, I know this girl. She's in my class.

JUST AS I THOUGHT.
HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO TELL HIS GIRLFRIEND THAT HE'S DATING OTHER GIRLS,
AND THEREFORE IMMEDIATELY AGREED WHEN I ASKED HIM TO JOIN OUR CLUB.
I THOUGHT THAT THIS YUMI GIRL IS TOJO'S REAL GIRLFRIEND.
AND I WAS RIGHT! AS EXPECTED FROM THE INTUITION OF A WOMAN.
HOW PATHETIC. THE SO-CALLED 'ATHLETIC CHAMPION' IS AFRAID OF HIS OWN GIRLFRIEND.
BUT HAS HE GOT ANY EXPERIENCE IN BASEBALL?
I DON'T CARE IF HE MAKES FALL BALL OR DEATH BALL. THIS GUY HAS TO PARTICIPATE IN EVERY SINGLE MATCH WE HAVE.
HIS SPEED AT RUNNING WILL BE A GREAT ASSET TO THE TEAM!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER!

THIS IS THE BEST STRATEGY I'VE EVER THOUGHT OF!
AT LEAST WE CAN GAIN A POINT FROM HOMESTEAL
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY!
THIS ISN'T GOOD. I JUST LOST CONTROL OF MYSELF AGAIN.
HARUKA-CHAN...
REALLY IS AMAZING
SORRY, SORRY.
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY, ONO-KUN?
HAHAHAHA
POOR TOJO. HE'S AN UNLUCKY GUY.

?
THESE TWO GIRLS, KEIKO AND KAORU, ARE BEST FRIENDS.
BUT, LISTEN! THERE'S ONE THING THAT I CAN'T FORGIVE HIM FOR EVEN THOUGH HE AGREED TO JOIN THE TEAM!
REALLY?
IF YOU SAY YOU'RE GONNA DO SOMETHING, YOU'LL ALWAYS COMPLETE IT FULLY.
YOU REMIND ME OF OCHIAI*.

*Hiromitsu Ochiai: a famous Japanese baseball player



WAIT FOR ME!
Bye, see you tomorrow
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
I'M NOT FOLLOWING YOU.
WE'RE WALKING IN THE SAME DIRECTION.
REMEMBER WHEN I TOOK YOU HOME?
I SEE.
TURNS OUT THAT MY HOUSE IS NEAR YOURS.
WHEN YOU PASS THE PARK, THERE'S A PLAZA.
AND MY HOUSE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF IT.
IS THAT SO?

Bump
WHAT'S WRONG? HOW COME YOU STOPPED ALL OF A SUDDEN?
MIKI-KUN!

BUT APPARENTLY HE'S DATING THE NEW MANAGER.
I'M SHOCKED...

I WAS PLANNING ON GOING HOME DIRECTLY, BUT..
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND
FOLLOW ME.
WHAT?!
WAIT A SEC! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
IT'S A SURPRISE.
GAME CENTRE
JEEZ! HE'S SO ANNOYING!
TODAY, THIS IS YOUR DUTY AS MANAGER.
DOESN'T HE REALIZE THAT I'M SHOCK RIGHT NOW?!

FIGHT THIS GUY AND WIN.
NO WAY! WHY SHOULD I...
IT'S A CLUB RULE! EVERY-ONE IN THE BASEBALL CLUB HAS FOUGHT HIM AND WON.
APART FROM HARUKA-CHAN.
I HAVE NO CHOICE!
DARN HIM!
FINE! I'LL DO IT!

EVEN THOUGH MIKI-KUN IS DATING SOME-ONE ELSE
I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING
BECAUSE...
I HAVEN'T EVEN CONFESSED TO HIM!
WHEN I FOUND OUT I HAD TO REPEAT THE 10TH GRADE, I WAS UPSET AND DISAP-POINTED.
I WAS TOO EMBARRASSED TO CONFESS TO HIM!

I LIKE HARUKA-CHAN'S PERSONALITY.
NO MATTER WHAT IT IS,
WHEN SHE DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING, SHE'LL COMPLETE IT FULLY.

COME ON! ONE MORE TIME!
TRY TO IMAGINE THAT GUY IS MIKI-KUN!
NO WAY..
HARUKA-CHAN...
IS REALLY COOL!
HE'S TRYING TO CHEER ME UP!
HARUKA-CHAN.

I PROMISE...
WE WILL WIN A MATCH, FOR SURE!
ONO-KUN .
WHY...
DID YOU ASK ME TO PLAY BASEBALL?
I HAVE TO ASK YOU.

I DON'T HAVE A GOOD MEMORY SO I HADN'T REMEMBERED ALL MY CLASSMATES' NAMES AT THAT TIME.
BUT I ALWAYS RECOGNIZED YOU.
THE GIRL WHO ALWAYS LOOKED BORED...
BECAUSE...
YOU ALWAYS LOOKED BORED.
THAT WAS WHEN I DECIDED THAT I WANTED YOU TO JOIN THE BASEBALL CLUB
AND THEN, I HEARD YOUR CONVERSATION IN THE CAFÉ.
IF YOU PLAYED BASEBALL, YOU WOULD FORGET ALL YOUR PROBLEMS.
I THOUGHT THAT...

THAT'S IT?
NO...
THAT'S NOT IT.
BUT I'LL TELL YOU THE REST...
AFTER WE WIN A MATCH!

IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT YOU'RE A YEAR BEHIND EVERY-ONE ELSE..
THE ONLY IMPORTANT THING IS...
THAT YOU ENJOY THE EXTRA TIME THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU.

FOR A MOMENT...
SUDDENLY STOPPED
THE TEARS THAT WERE ABOUT TO OVERFLOW..

I WAS REALLY SHOCKED WHEN I REALIZED MIKI-KUN WAS DATING..

BUT..

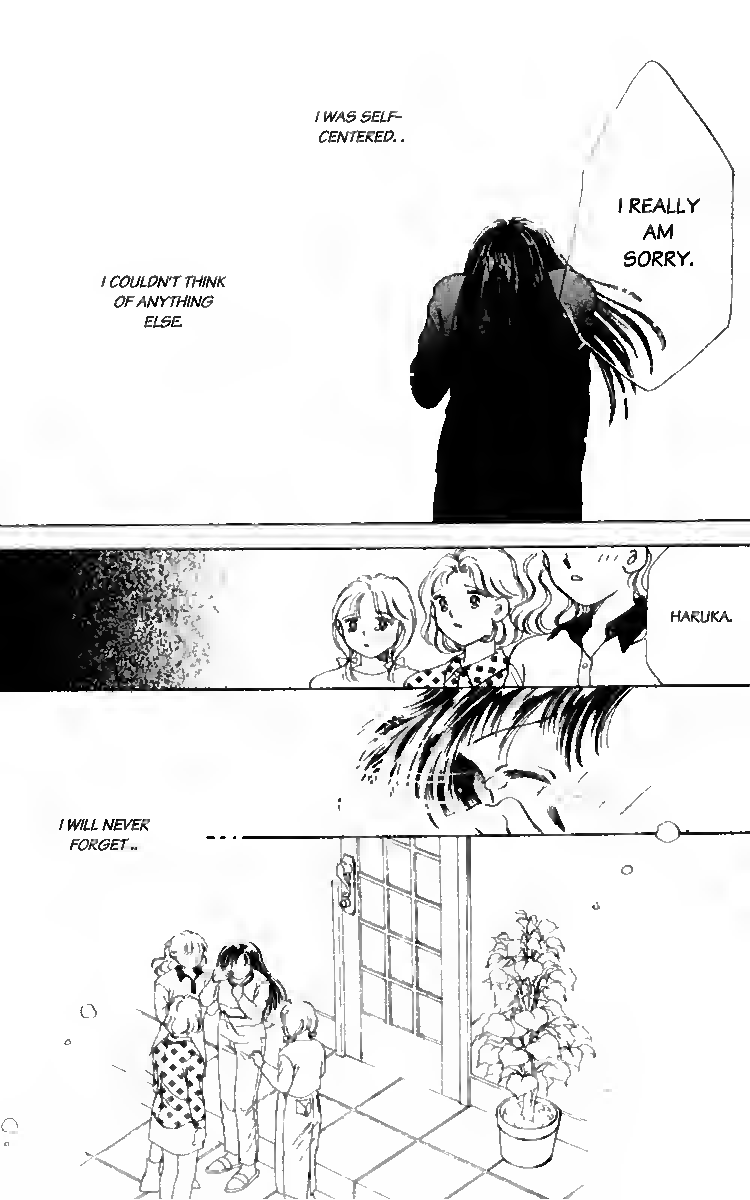
THANKS TO HIM, I COULD END THIS FEEL-ING WITHOUT TEARS.

NO...
THAT'S NOT IT..
I WONDER..
WHAT'S HE GOING TO SAY NEXT.

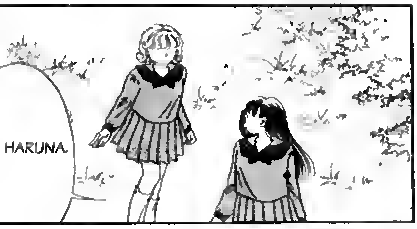
HARUKA.
YOUR FRIENDS FROM THE OLD SCHOOL ARE HERE TO MEET YOU.
WHAT IS IT, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
LATELY, HARUKA HAS BEEN REALLY SELFISH.
ACTUALLY, WE DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO SAY THIS, BUT...
WE FEEL THAT WE SHOULD TELL YOU HOW WE FEEL.

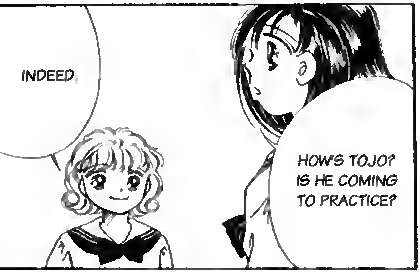
SORRY.
AH
EVER SINCE YOU TRANSFERRED TO THAT SCHOOL, WE NEVER MEET UP WITH EACH OTHER ANYMORE. AND WHEN WE FINALLY HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK, YOU SUDDENLY LEFT THE CAFE.
AND WHEN WE ASKED YOU TO JOIN US THAT DAY, THE SAME THING HAPPENED.
AND ON THAT DAY, MY TEAM WAS HAVING A MATCH.
I'VE BEEN BUSY EVER SINCE I BECAME THE MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL CLUB.
YOU DIDN'T TELL US ABOUT YOUR DECISION TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL EITHER. YOU LEFT US WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING. WE WERE REALLY SHOCKED.
IF THAT WAS THE CASE, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US EARLIER?

N... NO.
WE WERE BEST FRIENDS, WEREN'T WE? DO YOU REALLY THINK WE WOULDN'T WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU AFTER YOU TRANSFERRED SCHOOL?
WHEN I KNEW I HAD TO REPEAT THE 10TH GRADE, MY THOUGHTS WERE ONLY ABOUT MYSELF.
I'M SORRY.

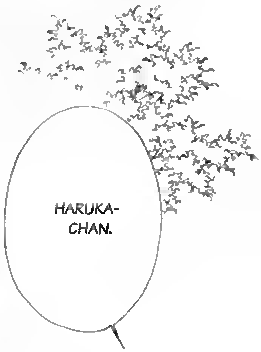

I WAS SELF-CENTERED..
I REALLY AM SORRY.
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE.
HARUKA.
I WILL NEVER FORGET..

EVEN
THOUGH I WAS
HEARTBROKEN,
TODAY,
I'VE LEARNT THAT THERE
IS SOMETHING MORE
IMPORTANT.


HARUNA.


INDEED.
HOW'S TOJO? IS HE COMING TO PRACTICE?

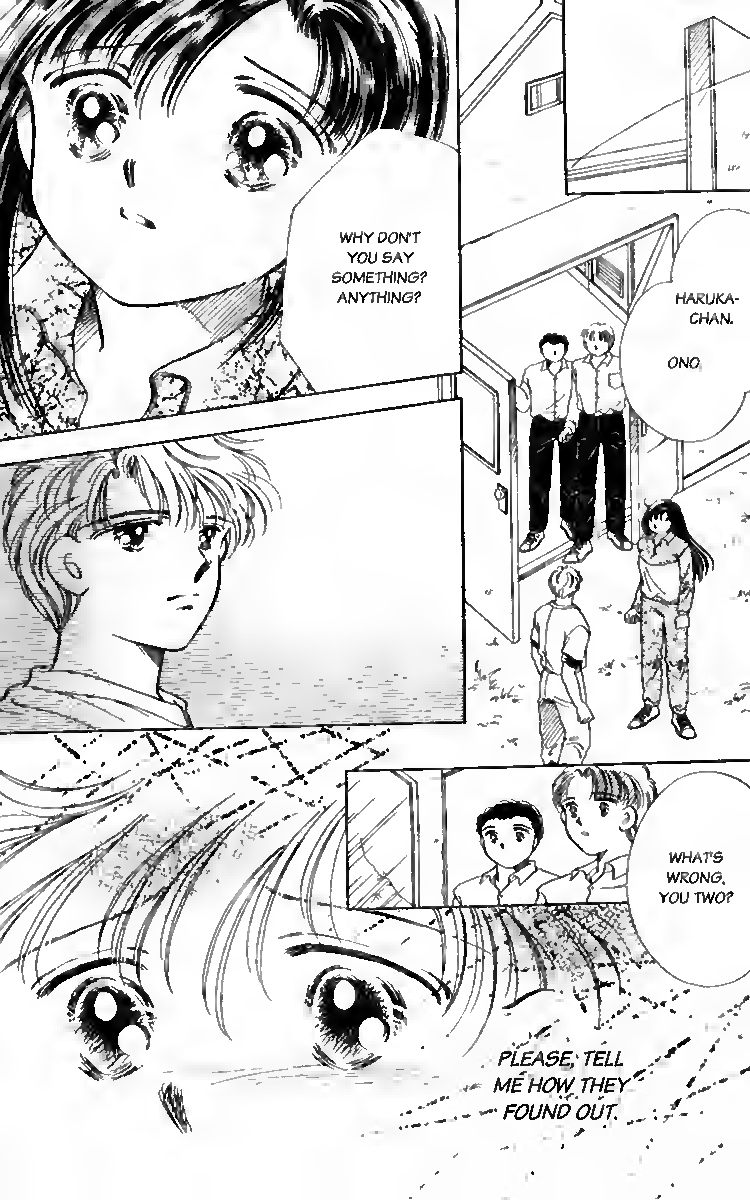
Toja, what're you doing?
Get back here!
BUT THE ATHLETIC CLUB'S MEMBERS ARE IN CHAOS
LOOK AT THEM!
EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T LIKE IT, HE'LL DEFINITELY BE COMING TO PRACTICE WITH US EVERYDAY.


HARUKA-CHAN.

DID YOU SEE KIYOHARA'S HOMERUN YESTERDAY?
OF COURSE I DID.
THEY'RE ALL BLIND.
HOW COULD THEY NOT KNOW THAT TOJO PREFERS GIRLS TO SPORT?
She's lost control of herself again
AAAH, I WISH WE HAD A PLAYER LIKE KIYOHARA ON OUR TEAM.
BASE BALL
DO YOU THINK KIYOHARA WOULD WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?
I DON'T THINK SO. EVEN IF HARUKA-CHAN BLACKMAILED HIM INTO IT.
HARUKA-CHAN REALLY IS AMAZING, ISN'T IT?
ONO-KUN...
BUT I'M GLAD YOU SAID THAT.
IT WAS JUST LIKE YOU, HARUKA-CHAN.

I LIKE THAT TYPE OF GIRL.
I CAN'T EVEN DESCRIBE HOW I FEEL ABOUT.
I SERIOUSLY RESPECT HER.
AND SHE'S OPTIMISTIC.
WHEN SHE GIVES US ONE OF HER SPEECHES, I FEEL LIKE I CAN DO ANY-THING.
ME TOO.
YEAH.
AND SHE'S FULL OF HOPE.
IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S A YEAR OLDER THAN US?

SHE'S COOL, ISN'T SHE?
THEY...
THEY KNEW THAT I WAS A YEAR OLDER?
SAY SOMETHING ALREADY!
WHAT... DID THEY JUST SAY?


WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING? ANYTHING?
HARUKA-CHAN.
ONO.
WHAT'S WRONG, YOU TWO?
PLEASE, TELL ME HOW THEY FOUND OUT.

I THOUGHT NOBODY KNEW MY SECRET BUT ONO! HE MUST HAVE BEEN THE ONE WHO TOLD THEM!
HARUKA-CHAN
YOU'VE BROKEN OUR PROMISE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS..
THAT MEANS .. I DON'T HAVE TO BE MANAGER ANY LONGER, RIGHT?

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